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Dated:

2/11/02

Signature:

Staci V. Harris
(Staci V. Harris)

Docket No.: HO-P02379US0
(PATENT)

#3/a

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Ian George Charles et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: N/A

Filed: February 11, 2002

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: MICROENCAPSULATED NITRIC OXIDE
SYNTHASE SOURCE

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

In the Claims

Please substitute the following amended claims contained herein for claims 3-5, 11-14, 19-23 and 25-26. Applicants have included in Appendix A, a marked version of the claims to illustrate the changes contained herein.